

From: McCrosson1@aol.com@inetgw
To: Microsoft ATR
Date: 1/15/02 3:25pm
Subject: Microsoft Settlement

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

I understand you are seeking public comment on the proposed antitrust settlement with the 9 states and Microsoft, and that the District Court will consider these comments when it determines whether the settlement is indeed in the public interest. I believe the settlement is very much in the public interest and should be finalized immediately.

Over a year and a half ago, on May 7, 2000, I wrote my representative and two senators to express my concern about the Justice Department's handling of the Microsoft matter. At that time the DOJ was presenting its case to Judge Jackson, who appeared to be inclined to break up Microsoft. I recalled how in the 1970s and 80s all attention was on the successes of Japan; U.S. companies seemingly could do nothing right. One company that changed all that was Microsoft, which became a leader of the U.S. technology surge. We all benefited from this leadership. On the way home from our good paying jobs we could stop off at a Starbucks and have an expensive cup of coffee. Why not? We Americans were doing well in the 90s; unemployment was at all time lows. Much of the litigation initiated by the Justice Department and opportunists like Barksdale was misdirected. Surely Microsoft did wrong, but the current proposed settlement addresses that. The current holdouts to the settlement have an agenda of their own, which is not in the best interest of America. To achieve their ends, they would have us become a society that eats its young! This case against Microsoft has gone on too long. Let's get back to work.

Very truly yours,
F. Joseph McCrosson